Introduction to Ethics
Cabrillo College
Summer Session 2006
Exam #2

Place all of your answers in your bluebooks. Neatness counts! If I cannot read your answer, it will be as though you had not written it.

I. True/False. Indicate your answer with a "T" or an "F" only. (2 points each)

1. Nietzsche is best classified as a nihilist.
2. On Parfit's account, personal identity is less deep on the complex view.
3. As a hedonist, Epicurus places greatest emphasis on fulfilling one's desire for maximum bodily pleasure.
4. Death for Epicurus is the greatest of all harms.
5. Mill would claim that it is better to be a fool satisfied than Socrates dissatisfied.
6. According to Pascal, one ought not to believe in God because of a lack of adequate justification.
7. Like Nietzsche, Tolstoy believes that life has its greatest value because of its finitude and its subjectivity.
8. Laurence Thomas argues that self-esteem and self-respect are fundamentally the same.
9. According to Kant, we ought to respect others' autonomy but there is no sense in which we ought to respect ourselves.
10. According to Hume, morality is based on adherence to necessary moral laws.
11. Hume denies that we have any understanding of causation, but he offers a robust account of personal identity.
12. According to Parfit, the simple and complex views of personal identity lead to identical moral judgments, similarly to Kant's two formulations of the Categorical Imperative.
13. Nietzsche's New Philosophers (I.e. future philosophers) will usher in a return to objectivity, finally completing the project of universal morality begun by Kant.
14. Bernard Williams argues that Utilitarianism fails because it does not take into account human projects, commitments and relationships, which are fundamental to human nature.
15. Fingarette does not believe in an eternal or disembodied soul.
16. The world depicted in *Brave New World* by Huxley is best classified as a utopia because of the heightened autonomy of the majority of characters depicted.

17. Midgley argues that there is something about evil or wickedness that cannot be explained by an appeal to internal conflict.
18. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde is used by Midgley as an example of internal conflict projected externally.
19. Nietzsche holds that any objective standard for morality is a result of our stronger natures.
20. The distinction between "good" and "bad" is a reversal of the prior and more fundamental distinction between "good" and "evil".

Part II. Fill in the blank. Just indicate your answers. Do *not* rewrite each statement. (5 points each)

21. Some philosophers have held that Nietzsche has committed the _____ Fallacy.
22. Pleasure for Epicurus is defined as the body's lack of pain and the mind's lack of _____.
23. Midgley claims that we inevitably try to avoid _____ our own bad motives.
24. The negative opposite of a "utopia" is a _____.
25. Laurence Thomas defines Self-Esteem as the ratio of _____ to _____.
26. Two moral principles that are modified by Parfit's shift from the simple view of identity to the complex view are _____ and _____.
27. The value of a merely finite life for Tolstoy is _____.
28. The key concept of personal identity in Buddhist philosophy is _____.

III. Short Answer. Give complete but *concise* answers to the following questions. (10 points each)

29. What is Nietzsche's view of nihilism?
30. What is the point of Smart's example of the "electrode operator"?
31. What is the relationship between anxiety, contentment, and desire for Epicurus?
32. What are Thompson's definitions of self-esteem and self-respect?
33. Which view of personal identity does Parfit take to be less deep? What does that mean?
34. Briefly explain the reasoning behind Pascal's "Wager".
35. How is Hume's critique of personal identity similar to his critique of causation?

IV. Essay Questions. Give detailed answers to two of the following four essay questions. In general, the more detailed

an answer you give, the better. Ensure that your answers are focused on the actual question asked, however. If you answer more than two questions, I will only read the first two. (25 points each)

36. Referring to question #33 above, explain Parfit's two views of personal identity. Using specific examples from Parfit's work, explain why Parfit thinks that these two views result in different moral judgments.
37. Explain in detail Bernard Williams' critique of Utilitarianism.
38. Give a detailed account of Nietzsche's critique of morality. How does that critique arise from his views on evolutionary biology and truth? What is his positive account of a strong individual?
39. Give a detailed account of Midgley's view of evil or wickedness. Explain her use of the example of The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.